## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

## WESTERN DIVISION

Civil Action No. 5:24-cv-00644

MARK KEITH ROBINSON,	)
Plaintiff,	) ) )
v.	)
CABLE NEWS NETWORK, INC. and LOUIS LOVE MONEY,	REPLY BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS
Defendants.	) ) )

Comes Now defendant Money and submits this brief reply.

The opposition to Mr. Money's motion is far more telling by seeing what it lacks as opposed to what it includes. The brief lacks:

- (1) An apology to the Court and the defendants for violating Rule 8.
- (2) An explanation for why the Rule was broken by a man who was purporting to be qualified to be the top governmental official in our state, and is currently the Lieutenant Governor. The question of whether the violation was intentional is answered by the lack of explanation—it was Robinson's plan all along to violate a well-known and well-established pleading rule through his very experienced attorneys.

(3) An explanation for why Mr. Robinson's campaign publicly called the amendment to the

Complaint "legalese" in an effort to eliminate any efficacy the amendment had. Moreover,

Robinson did not distance himself from his campaign's comments or deny that they were

made with his permission.

(4) Any type of proposed alternative sanction. To that end, Mr. Robinson says in his brief that

Money has not been harmed by the violation. That is not the case, as the publicity Robinson

caused is detrimental to Money's defense and the ability to obtain a fair jury. And, a

sanction is not compensatory damages – they are not the same thing. A sanction is

necessary to prevent a future litigant from violating the rule, then amending when called

on it, but then announcing that the amendment is due to mere "legalese" and the prayer for

relief in the original complaint is valid.

Something has to be done. Mr. Robinson's behavior is not appropriate. He violated a rule,

made a spectacle of it, only fixed it when called out, then announced the fix was not sincere through

his campaign. He has offered no other solution. Thus, Money asks that his case be dismissed.

Alternately, Money asks for a mere 1% of what Robinson says his case is worth - \$500,000, less

than the prejudgment interest would be on a \$50,000,000 award.

This the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024.

/s/ Andrew L. Fitzgerald

Andrew L. Fitzgerald, N.C.S.B. No. 31522

D. Stuart Punger, Jr., N.C.S.B. No. 35517

FITZGERALD HANNA & SULLIVAN, PLLC

119 Brookstown Avenue, Suite 402

Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Telephone/Fax: 336-793-4696

andy@fhslitigation.com

stuart@fhslitigation.com

staart e mentigation.com

/s/ Peter D. Zellmer

Peter D. Zellmer Peter D. Zellmer, PLLC 421 N. Edgeworth Street Greensboro, NC 27401 Telephone: 336-274-1168

Peter.Zellmer@zellmerlegal.com

Counsel for Louis Love Money

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that the undersigned has this date served a copy of the foregoing REPLY BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS upon all other parties to this action by electronically filing with the File & Serve System which will send electronic notification to the following:

## ADDRESSEE(S):

Anthony J. Biller Envisage Law 2601 Oberlin Road, Suite 100 Raleigh, NC 27608 Phone: (919) 755-1317

Fax: (919) 782-0452 ajbiller@envisage.law Jesse R. Binnall Jason C. Greaves BINNALL LAW GROUP, PLLC 717 King Street, Suite 200 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Phone: (703) 888-1943

Fax: (703) 888-1930 jesse@binnall.com jason@binnall.com

Mark Nebrig

Katherine Bolger

Kaitlin Price

kaitlinprice@mvalaw.com

marknebrig@mvalaw.com

katebolger@dwt.com

Attorneys for CNN

This the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024.

/s/ Andrew L. Fitzgerald

Andrew L. Fitzgerald, N.C.S.B. No. 31522 D. Stuart Punger, Jr., N.C.S.B. No. 35517 FITZGERALD HANNA & SULLIVAN, PLLC 119 Brookstown Avenue, Suite 402 Winston-Salem, NC 27101 Telephone/Fax: 336-793-4696

andy@fhslitigation.com stuart@fhslitigation.com